

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Erickson, Supervisor Brusky, Ed Koslowski, Delores Pierce, Duane Pierce, Jerry Polus, Joe Witkowski

EXCUSED: Louise Dahlke

****Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1841**

1. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernie Erickson at 4:30 pm.

2. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joan Brusky to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approve/Modify Minutes of September 19, 2017.

Motion made by Joan Brusky, seconded by Ed Koslowski to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Update re: Honor Rewards Program.

CVSO Jerry Polus reported Honor Rewards cards have been issued to 268 veterans and the number of participating businesses remains at 82. Koslowski noted the Honor Rewards website shows two businesses with very similar names which may need to be corrected if it is a typographical error. It was also noted that Kimps Hardware and Cabela's offer a veterans discount every day.

5. Update re: 2017 Veterans' Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair.

It was indicated that next year's event will be held on Sunday instead of Saturday. One of the advantages of having the event on Sunday is that it is more economical if a veteran wants to bring his family to the Fair as the admission price on Sunday is reduced. Joe Witkowski noted this group had talked about moving the event to Sunday several times in the past and decided not to do that, but Joan Brusky said the Fair Board is the party that requested the event be moved.

A discussion was also held with regard to sending thank you notes to businesses who donated prizes for the Fair. Erickson said he has something on his computer he can print out and get to Brusky and Brusky said she will add a handwritten note to the letters before they are mailed.

6. Discussion re: Veterans Day Activities.

Koslowski reported he has sent out over 100 postcards to businesses asking for information on Veterans Day offers. He has already heard from a number of businesses, including Ashwaubenon Bowling who will offer three free games of bowling, including shoes, Massart Chiropractic who will offer a complete exam with x rays, A & W who advised they will offer a free combo meal to veterans and Fly Me Flag who will offer a 10% discount.

It was also noted that the Green Bay Gamblers will hold their Veterans Appreciation Night on October 28 and Pearly Gates has tickets available if anyone wants them. Polus will be at the event signing people up for the Honor Rewards program.

The VFW in Howard will be holding their annual breakfast on Saturday, November 11 beginning at 8:00 am, however Koslowski noted that sometimes it begins a little earlier. There will be a table set up for veterans to register for the Honor Rewards program. Koslowski said he can go early and get the table ready for this and he will also get information to Polus to have some small signs made up for the table. Erickson indicated he hoped to be able to attend the event to help sign people up for Honor Rewards as well.

Koslowski also mentioned that the Yacht Club will be holding their annual Veterans Day event on Saturday, November 11 with registration starting at 10:00 am and the ceremony following at 11:00 am. Pearly Gates will be holding their free Veterans Day event on November 11 beginning at 10:00 am and will have hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, booyah, ice cream and beer for vets. The United Patriotic Society will be holding their Veterans Day event on November 11 at the Brown County Veterans Memorial Arena beginning at 10:30 am.

Brusky indicated she would be willing to do some soliciting for Veterans Day offers but would like to know who Jim Haskins will be approaching so as not to duplicate efforts. Koslowski said he would go through the list with Brusky at the end of the meeting.

7. Report from CVSO Jerry Polus.

Polus shared information that Costco will be offering veterans a special membership deal on Veterans Day. He did not have anything else to report.

8. Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Brusky, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Pierce & Witkowski).

-Erickson informed that a discussion was held at the last Education and Recreation Committee meeting regarding offering free boat launch passes for Purple Heart recipients. He said the number of veterans who may actually take advantage of that would be quite small. Erickson also noted that Purple Heart recipients can golf free at the Brown County Golf Course. Polus said there are number of free activities available to Purple Heart Recipients.

Erickson also talked about George's Secret Elf Project. He read about it on a neighborhood website. The organizers want to put together 50 spaghetti dinner bags to be handed out as surprise gifts to veterans in need over the holidays. The project is looking for spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, canned fruits and vegetables, pudding and jello along with socks, decks of cards, small bottles of shampoo, soap and handmade thank you cards to distribute along with the spaghetti bags. Donated items can be dropped off at the Green Bay YMCA.

-Brusky did not have anything to report.

-Koslowski reported that Pearly Gates is looking for donations of coffee. Anyone who brings in a 2 pound or larger container of coffee will receive a \$10 gift certificate for the bar. Duane Pierce said the LZ Lambeau group holds their quarterly get togethers at Pearly Gates and it came to their attention that the members of VVA 224 make regular trips to King to drop off supplies and on a recent trip they noticed that the coffee supply was running very low.

Koslowski also said he had seen information on a Vietnam travel opportunity for veterans. The cost was about \$5,000 and Pierce said he has seen other trips like this offered over the last few months.

-Pierce reported that Shoots Bar in Suamico will be hosting a meat raffle on November 4 at 2:00 pm. Pearly Gates held a similar event last weekend that went very well and raised a lot of money for veterans.

-Witkowski did not have anything to report. The Subcommittee members welcomed him back.

9. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.

10. **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joan Brusky to adjourn at 5:02 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary